

**Saskatchewan Cattlemen’s Association
Board Meeting
Thursday November 12, 2020
Conference Call**

Arnold Balicki Chair (Director 9A),
Rick Toney, Past Chair
Kyle Hebert (Director 1)
Leigh Rosengren (Director 2)
Keith Day (Director 3B)
Randy Stokke (Director 4)
Levi Hull (Director 5)
Brent Griffin (Director 6)
Paula Larson (Director 7)
Brian Cole (Director 8)
Dean Moore (Director 9B)
Brad Welter (Director, SCFA)
Harold Martens (Director, SSGA)
Kelcy Elford (Director, SSGA)

SCA Staff:

Ryder Lee (CEO)
Marianne Possberg (Production)
Leann Clifford (Executive Administrator)
Glenn LaPointe (Marketing and Communications)

Guest:

Regrets:

Roger Meyers (Director 3A)
Garret Poletz (Director, SCFA)
Holly Thompson (YCC)

Arnold Balicki called the meeting to order at 8:04 am.

1.0 Approval of Agenda

**MOTION 2020-091: Larson / Hebert
“To accept the Agenda as presented”**

Motion Carried

**1.01 Review of Minutes
October 8,2020**

**MOTION 2020-92: Rosengren / Cole
“To accept the October 08, 2020 minutes as presented.”**

Motion Carried

1.02 Chair Report

- Attended a few webinars – AAFC – Food Systems in the time of COVID. Found it to be an interesting conversation with one outcome recognizing the necessity for all sectors in the food chain to work together to keep grocery shelves filled at the retail level/
- The pandemic has really elevated the consumers trust in primary agricultural producers.
- Met with LMS – Brent Brooks. They have rescinded their partial commitment to provide SCA with their “producer list”. Instead willing to have producer contact information forms on their counters for producers to fill out if they are willing to do so.
- Brooks stated that the preference would be to have LSS collect and submit check off instead of the dealers.
- Brooks also raised concerns in regards to WLPIP – the need to have August & September base settlement weights increased to 950 pounds, with data collected from 850 to 1050 pound category there is also the request to have provincial livestock dealers report data on privately traded cattle.
- Kyle Hebert and Arnold will be attending an Ottawa virtual fly in on November 16th.
- New internet announcement from federal government is not satisfactory. On a first come first service basis to communities that qualify. Since the big storm Arnold has been receiving emails getting redirected to spam.
- Low orbiting satellite programs in Montana being focused on to allow for precision agriculture. Without that we fall behind.
- Ag will need that level of 5G to realize the benefits.

MOTION 2020-93: Balicki / Welter

‘To accept the Chair Report as presented.’

Motion Carried

1.03 CEO Report

- Good decision regarding virtual fall meetings, while it is not ideal, the pandemic situation made it necessary for this year.
- Viewed a couple of interesting events in the past month around activist producers. One was a water webinar, and another was a YouTube video. There are active and loud voices about grasslands conservation and production online. They teeter or sometimes stand firmly around “government should dictate land use”. The take on most producers’ views is opposite to that, but generally those “most producers” are not as active. Do not see it as a policy space SCA needs to weigh in but it will continue to pop up.
- CCA and NCFA are both active with Members of Parliament. This coming Monday Kyle, Arnold and Ryder will be part of a CCA “lobby day”. Will Lowe and Ryder participated in a few meetings in late October as part of a concentrated NCFA push.
- MP Warren Steinley has been named to the Agriculture Committee. Sat down and covered the waterfront of issues from business risk management to internet and irrigation investment.
- Arnold and Ryder participated in a forage insurance working group with SCIC and other producer groups. Requested a similar meeting to discuss price insurance and that is in the making. Have been in talks with other provincial managers in the west about them pushing improvements through their coordinators.
- Met with Brent Brooks – LMS

- Rosengren brought up the idea of a WCB/OSHA “As it Turns Out” segment. That has led Ryder to some learning the issues/rules. As it turns out it is not as straight forward once you get to hiring contractors or service providers to come to your place. More info to come.
- More consults are on the way or underway. Simulated meat labels, red tape reduction continues here in SK and more will come with government having a new mandate.
- Participated in a virtual development conference for Treaty 4. Nobody engaged with us.
- It continues that there is opportunity on First Nations land and have met with a couple of groups from the area, but until they have governance in place, we cannot make things happen.

MOTION 2020-94: Larson /Toney

“To accept the CEO report as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.04 Financial Report

MOTION 2020-095: Rosengren / Hebert

“To accept the Financial Report as presented.”

Motion Carried

1.05 Governance

“Governance – “to steer” (not to row) – the process by which small group of persons, acting as a group on behalf of an organization’s owners, cause that organization to achieve what it should and avoid what is unacceptable.” – John Carver “The Governance Coach”

New Business

Communications Budget re-Allocation

- The Belton commercials have been getting people to think beef and the drool effect.
- Need to do the value of cattle on the land as well. Work the economic multiplier data into messaging about good on the land.
- There is a lot of concern about government support for small businesses lately. We are all small businesses helping other small businesses.

MOTION 2020-096: Hebert / Martens

“To reallocate 2020 budget of \$100,000 to communications.”

Motion Carried

Environment and Climate Change Canada Funding

- Offer to build capacity or do research.
- Aim is to develop an RFP with the GP&P committee and get it out.
- Encouraged significant thought to go out into those doing the work and endorse that work.
- SSGA is a long way down the road and have a number of people versed in this work.

WLPIP

- Four provinces working group being formed to improve.
- Ryder sits in this group.

Grass Crown Land Sales

- A recent online tempest unfolded. Awareness vs need for policy change.

Simulated Meat Regulations

- Consultation is ongoing on how Canada regulates this.
- Encourage individual board members to do this consult.

Congratulations to Kelcy Elford

- Becoming the new Chair of SSGA
- Garner Deobald is likely to be coming onto the SCA board.

Old Business

Mental Health First Aid

- Still in the cue. Waiting due to COVID

Set Aside Update

- Slow in getting rid of the backlog. Is there more cows and bulls coming into the market?

Letters in Review

Calendar Synchronized

- Next meeting in December – Face to Face? Maximum is 10 right now.
- Zoom type of meeting.

Discussion

CRSB is changing their “Framework” committee. All the members (Harold included) will have to reapply to the position through as association or independently. Harold would like to via SCA.

Committee met on Tuesday and **VBP+** brought a report forward. Over the history of Verified programs have to date had 1500 approvals for audit and at 1300 in there and shipping cattle.

Over 200 applicants have dropped out – this is a concern.

Greatest concern of the drop out operations Is they saw no financial benefit to the program. Roughly 30% of cattle are Cargill pay extra cattle.

Announcement coming after November 23rd including additional certified to consumer businesses.

Government programs with a requirement for equity positions? That is only related to larger business bailouts.

Some conversations about debt forgiveness are starting. If businesses are walking away, this may happen. How will that look? Uncertain. Financial Institutions are starting to hear about things like this.

COVID Effects

A full lockdown will take more out of businesses. How is the line drawn of what is essential?
Tell the government that we cannot afford a shut down again. Make sure the government keeps us as an essential service.

Ag was deemed essential in SK in initial COVID which included suppliers. Second thing was to allow transport of goods that flow into ag. Keep that list long and broad. Plumbing. Electrical. Include in "mandate" communications the importance of keeping SK going despite COVID.

In Camera

Adjourn 10:08am

MOTION 2020-97: Balicki

"To adjourn."

Motion Carried



Board Chair – Arnold Balicki

____ Leann Clifford ____ - _Recording Secretary

Date approved